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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/632,279	08/01/2003	Mikio Uchida	AA539MC	5096

27752 7590 02/22/2006

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EXAMINER

CHANNAVAJALA, LAKSHMI SARADA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1615

DATE MAILED: 02/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/632,279	UCHIDA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Lakshmi S. Channavajjala	1615	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 November 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,5 and 9-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,5 and 9-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Receipt of RCE, amendment and remarks dated 11-28-05 is acknowledged.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 9-23 are pending in the instant application.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 11-28-05 has been entered.

The following rejection of record has been maintained:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. Claims 1, 2, 4-5 and 9-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US2002/0051798 to Koike et al ('798) in view of EP 027 730 (EP 730).

'798 teach a gommage composition that generates heat upon contact with water and gives the user an excellent feeling to the user, comprising a component that generates heat upon contact with water such as magnesium chloride, calcium chloride,

Art Unit: 1615

magnesium sulfate etc (0020); a substance that is liquid at 25 degrees C (other than water) (0017) comprising polyethylene glycol, lower alcohols, glycerol or oils; non-aqueous solvents (0018); and other surfactants. The composition of '798 is free of water (0019) and thus reads on the instant "anhydrous" composition. Table 3 and 4 of '798 teach in addition to the above components, behenyl alcohol, cellulose and polyoxyethylene castor oil, which read on the instant claimed, fatty alcohols, cellulose derivatives and polyoxyalkylene derivatives respectively. '798 discussed in the above paragraphs, fails to specify the claimed micron sizes of the inorganic heat-generating agent. However, absent evidence to the criticality of the particle size, it would have been within the scope of a skilled artisan to use appropriate particle size of the heat generating salts without affecting the warm feeling achieved by the composition.

'798 fail to teach the specific polyoxyalkylene derivatives of claims 1.

EP '730 teaches cosmetic compositions for hair or skin treatment, comprising heat generating compounds when brought into contact with water (page 3). Among the heat generating compounds EP 730 teaches fatty alcohols, alkylene glycols and polyoxyalkylene derivatives (page 5, in particular lines 8-19 and page 6, lines 8 to page 7, lines 13). More specifically EP 730 teaches the claimed polyoxyethylene and polyoxypropylene copolymer (example 4 on page 12). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of an ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention to use the pluronic or any other suitable polyoxyalkylene derivatives as heat generating agents in the composition of '798 because EP 730 teaches that the above polyoxyalkylene derivatives are preferable as heat generating compounds (page 8) and suggests that

Art Unit: 1615

the heat generating compounds give an excellent finishing and cleansing effect to the consumer upon application, which results in a comfortable hot feeling. One of an ordinary skill in the art would have expected at least a synergistic effect with a combination of the heat generating salts of '798 and the polyoxyethylene and polyoxypropylene copolymer of EP 730.

3. Claims 17-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US2002/0051798 to Koike et al ('798) in view of EP 027 730 (EP 730) as applied to claims 1, 2, 4-5 and 9-16, and further in view of US 6,540,989 to Janchitraponvej ('989).

Claims 20-22 require an amidoamines and an acid.

'798 and EP 730 fail to teach the claimed amidoamines.

'989 teach a self-warming hair care composition comprising a glycol, a quaternary ammonium compound, an amidoamines and a silicone. The composition of '989 is anhydrous and upon contact with water generates heat giving the user a pleasant feeling and also the conditioning ability (col. 1). '989 teach amidoamines (col. 3, lines 41-55; col. 5) and fatty alcohols (col. 4, lines 26-30; col. 5) that are also described in the instant specification. '989 also teach polyoxyalkylene derivatives. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of an ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention to add amido amine of '989 to the composition of '798, containing block polyoxyalkylene polymer and use the composition for hair care such as hair conditioning because '989 teaches that a heat generating composition that is self-

Art Unit: 1615

warming gives a warm feeling to use and also provides good conditioning because of the presence of amido amine that acts as a deposition aid and a conditioner.

Accordingly, the expected result would be to effectively condition hair as well as provide a warmth sensation to use indicating that the composition is working effectively. Further, with respect to the ratio of amidoamines and acid claimed, '989 teach that a clear conditioning composition is obtained with amino acid neutralized with acid. Accordingly, optimizing the ratio of amido amine and acid so as to obtain an effective conditioning effect.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 11-28-05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants argue that there is no suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify or to combine the reference teachings. It is argued that '798 teach that the cosmetic may comprise a component a heat generating component like magnesium sulfate, but fails to teach the claimed polyoxyalkylene derivative.

It is argued that while EP '730 teaches cosmetic compositions for hair or skin treatment, comprising heat-generating compounds, such as polyoxyalkylene derivatives, when brought into contact with water, it would not have been obvious for one of an ordinary skill in the art to use pluronic or any other suitable polyoxyalkylene derivatives of EP '730 in the composition of US '798 because there is no motivation in either references to combine the teachings or for achieving a synergistic effect with the

Art Unit: 1615

combination of heat generating agents. It is argued that '798 already teaches the inorganic salts for the heat generating and hence there is no need for any additional agents such as the polyoxyalkylene derivatives. Applicants also argue that instant invention employs polyoxyalkylene derivatives help dispersion of inorganic heat generating agents, prevent their agglomeration, which causes gritty feeling to the skin or hair. It is argued that neither references recognize the problem of gritty feel and hence no motivation to combine the teachings.

Applicants' arguments are considered but not found persuasive because instant claims are directed to a composition comprising heat-generating agents, which is also taught by both the cited and thus the prior art is analogous to the instant invention. Both US '798 and EP '730 teach using a heat generating compound to give a comfortable feeling to the user, while at the same time providing a cleansing, moisturizing or other cosmetic benefits to skin and hair. The motivation to add the polyoxyalkylene derivatives of EP '730 in the composition of US '798 comes from the teaching of EP '730 that the polyoxyalkylene generates heat of dilution and heat of dissolution or heat of reaction when it is contacted with water (page 4). EP '730 teaches that the polyoxyalkylene derivatives generate heat that is not too low or too high and instead an optimum amount is generated that enables the permeability of cosmetic skin or hair components and the amount of heat generated by the composition can be controlled. EP '730 also teaches that the heat generated by the compounds improves the circulation of blood and imparts moisture to the skin. Thus, one of an ordinary skill in the art would have expected to achieve an optimum amount of heat that enables the

Art Unit: 1615

permeability of the cosmetic compositions, improve blood circulations to give a warmth feeling to the user and also imparts the desired moisturization. While instant claims do not recite gritty feeling argued, both the references teach a smooth feeling with the heat generating compositions, thus suggesting there is no gritty feeling upon using the heat generating composition of the prior art. The motivation to combine the components directed to same field of endeavor and solving the same problem flows logically, to produce at least a synergistic effect and does not necessarily possess the same reasoning for combination as that of the instant invention.

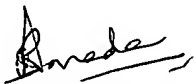
Applicants argue that there is no requisite motivation to combine or modify the teachings of '798 with EP '730, to arrive at the composition of claims 1, 2, 4-5 and 9-16 and accordingly the claims 17-23 dependent from the above claims do not are not obvious over the cited prior art. Applicants arguments regarding the teachings of EP '730 and US '798 have been addressed and for the reasons mentioned above. Further, '989 further teach amidoamines for the same purpose. Thus, all the references cited constitute analogous art and therefore, as explained the combination renders instant claims obvious and the expected result by a skilled artisan is at least effect in producing the desired heat and imparting the warm feeling to the user, to skin as well as hair.

Art Unit: 1615

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lakshmi S. Channavajjala whose telephone number is 571-272-0591. The examiner can normally be reached on 9.00 AM -6.30 PM

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thurman K. Page can be reached on 571-272-0602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Lakshmi S Channavajjala
Examiner
Art Unit 1615
February 16, 2006